

# MUHLENBERG MEDICAL CENTER

## PULSE

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MUHLENBERG MEDICAL CENTER, BETHLEHEM, PA.

January-February 1973

## Research Begun In New Parkinsonian Drug



**FOR THE HEALING OF THE DISABLED — Dedication of the Harrison and Myrtie Prosser Department of Rehabilitation Medicine.** Left to right, Mrs. Phyllis Vaughn, physical therapist; Richard Frantz, head of physical therapy; Dominic A. Donio, M.D., department director; Mrs. Prosser, Dr. Prosser and Majtaba Hooshmand, M.D., physiatrist.

## MMC Rehab. Department Named To Conduct 16-Week Ex-10 Study

Muhlenberg Medical Center's Department of Rehabilitation, which conducted pioneer testing of L-dopa, a drug that reduces many of the effects of Parkinson's disease, has been named to research EX-10, a new drug to control Parkinsonian tremor.

Dr. Dominic A. Donio, director of the department announced that the hospital was selected as a research center by the firm that developed the new drug, Lakeside Laboratories, a division of Colgate-Palmolive Company, Milwaukee.

Dr. Donio stated that "L-dopa opened the door for self-care, enabling victims of Parkinson's disease to walk, feed themselves and, in some cases, even drive a car and play golf."

The department director noted that tremors, particularly of the hands, are the last Parkinson's symptoms to be controlled. Extensive laboratory testing of EX-10 has led researchers to believe that it is effective in controlling these symptoms, but, before the drug can be marketed, it must undergo one more crucial research procedure, testing in a clinical environment.

Forty outpatients from MMC's Parkinson's Disease Clinic will be selected to participate in the new research program. Thirty of these patients will be given a daily dosage of 3 to 6 capsules of EX-10, while the remaining 10 will be taking placebos, capsules containing an inactive substance.

Dr. Donio pointed out that this procedure assures a completely controlled research situation, in which neither the patient nor the clinician are aware of who is taking the active drug.

Over a 16-week period, the clinicians will carefully chart



**Rev. Ralph Hartzell**

## Hospital Honors Prossers For Continued Support of Program

### Miss Sieger Named To Oversee MMC'S Chaplaincy Needs

Deborah Ann Sieger, a former nursing instructor at Lankenau School of Nursing in Philadelphia, has been named director of the Lutheran Chaplaincy Service of the Lehigh Valley, a program of the Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod of the Lutheran Church in America. The newly-launched service will oversee the chaplaincy needs of Muhlenberg Medical Center, along with 14 other area institutions.

Miss Sieger asserted that her new role calls for developing "new approaches in the ministry," including the recruiting and training of lay volunteers. She stated that the chaplaincy service replaces the 18-year old

Dr. Harrison W. Prosser and his wife, Myrtie M. Prosser, have presented a check for \$45,000 to Muhlenberg Medical Center's Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation.

Dr. Dominic A. Donio, director of the department, accepted the gift from Dr. and Mrs. Prosser, citing their continued support of the hospital's program of medical care and lauding their most recent contribution as "characteristic of the philanthropic generosity that has become synonymous with the name Prosser."

In their honor, the hospital's physical medicine and rehabilitation department will now be known as "The Dr. Harrison W. Prosser and Myrtie M. Prosser Department of Rehabilitation Medicine."

## Bethlehem Pastor Speaker for Men's Dinner, April 23

Rev. Ralph R. Hartzell, pastor and community leader, will be the speaker at the annual dinner of the Men of MMC, Monday, April 23. The affair will be held in the hall of St. Peter's Lutheran Church, 1933 Hanover Ave., Allentown, at 6:30 p.m.

William E. Kropp, president of the men's group, stated that more than 250 members, wives and guests are expected to attend.

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# PULSE

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 Donald E. Porter, Administrator

## Apparel Leader Schneider Sees Important Future For Hospital

Muhlenberg Medical Center's board of directors is composed of a unique cross-section of business, professional, religious and community leaders, all dedicated men and women, whose diverse backgrounds reflect at least one common goal—meeting the medical needs of a prosperous and growing community.

When Wharton L. Schneider joined the board in 1971, he knew very little about hospital operations or administration. But it was felt that his exemplary success in business and community involvement qualified him for service on the board.

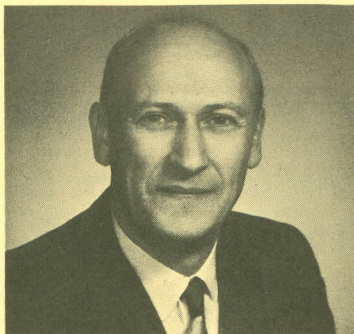
A native of Wilkes-Barre, Mr. Schneider moved to Brooklyn and later attended New York University's School of Business. When war was declared in 1941, the government hired him as a civilian pilot in the West Coast Training Command.

In 1942, he was commissioned in the U. S. Army Air Corps, and eventually flew numerous assignments in China, Burma and India.

After returning to civilian life in 1946, Mr. Schneider established Allison Manufacturing Company in White Plains, N. Y., later moving the firm to Newbury, N. Y. A pioneer in apparel silk-screening, Allison changed its directions in 1947, when the firm moved to Allentown.

Combining an already booming silk-screening business with the manufacture of garments, Mr. Schneider soon established the firm's reputation as one of the country's leading producers of knitwear. Its customers include the Boy Scouts of America and Sears, Montgomery-Ward and other nationally-known department store chains.

Today Allison, which also has two factories in North Carolina and one in Florida, is owned by Beatrice Foods Co. of Chi-



Wharton L. Schneider

cago. The company recently celebrated its 25th anniversary in Allentown, honoring 9 employees who were among the original 40 in 1947.

Mr. Schneider points with pride to the efficient services and excellently maintained facilities at MMC, noting that neither of these came by accident. "Hard work, foresighted planning and a deep concern for people's needs are the key in any business," he stated, "and hospital administration is exactly that—a business."

Besides his position on the hospital's board, where he serves as assistant treasurer, Mr. Schneider is a member of the Personnel and Building and Grounds committees. He is a member of the Lehigh County Welfare Advisory Board and a director and past-president of the Lehigh Valley Needle Trades Association. The Allentown resident is a former member of the board of the Allentown-Lehigh County Chamber of Commerce.

Mr. Schneider was a strong advocate of MMC's shift from the medical specialty field to its present status as a full-service hospital.

The apparel manufacturer reflected, "I've learned a great deal about hospital care during my two years on the board, and I can easily say that it has been one of the most exciting and rewarding experiences of my life.

## Approve Two Staff Physicians

Two Allentown physicians were approved for active staff privileges by Muhlenberg Medical Center's board of directors at their January 31 meeting in the hospital's conference room.

Dr. Gavin C. Barr, staff president, announced that Norman S. Sarachek, M.D., and Earl K. Sipes, M.D., have been admitted to the medical staff, following the recommendations of the Medical Credentials Committee.

Dr. Sarachek, a native of Allentown, was graduated with distinction from Swarthmore College in 1960. After receiving his M.D. degree from the University of Pittsburgh in 1964, he served his internship at the University of Pittsburgh Medical Center. Dr. Sarachek completed successive one-year residencies in internal medicine at Montefiore Hospital, Bronx, N.Y., and University of Pittsburgh School of Medicine, where he then entered two-year residency in cardiology.

In 1971, he was named an assistant professor at the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine and was appointed director of the university's Cardiology Service at the Philadelphia Veterans' Administration Hospital. Dr. Sarachek is currently a clinical assistant professor of medicine at the University of Pennsylvania and maintains offices at 2200 Hamilton Street in Allentown. He was granted active privileges in internal medicine and cardiology.

Dr. Sipes was born in Harrisonville, Pa., and received his A.B. degree from Gettysburg College in 1943. Following his graduation from Jefferson Medical College in Philadelphia, where he was awarded his M.D. degree in 1946, Dr. Sipes served his internship and later, a three-year surgical residency at Allentown's Sacred Heart Hospital. In 1950, he was named the recipient of a one-year fellowship at the Lahey Clinic in Boston. Dr. Sipes, who has his offices at 24 N. 18th Street, Allentown, is certified by the American Board of Surgery. He has been approved for active privileges in general surgery at MMC.

## PROSSERS (Continued from page 1)

Dr. Donio indicated that a bronze plaque denoting the department's new name was unveiled in early February at official dedication ceremonies, during which the Prossers were praised for "making this gracious gift available to Muhlenberg Medical Center."

The \$45,000 will be used for the operation of the rehabili-

tation department and will aid in the care of physically disabled persons through the purchase of needed equipment.

Dr. Donio added that the gift will also enable additional staffing and will provide funds for continuing education and other programs that "have kept MMC at the fore-front of rehabilitative care in the Lehigh Valley."



**THE PROSSERS** and the plaque which properly identifies the new Prosser Department of Rehabilitation Medicine at MMC.





**A FIRST** — Dale R. Seibert, Everett Associates, left, presents the first Sculptura Sitz Bath ever produced to MMC. Mr. Seibert provided technical advice to the Crane Co. for the development of the bath. To his left are Louis Blankemeier, Donald E. Porter, MMC administrator; Walter Deidel, Crane Co., and Gerald Hertz, Hertz Supply Co., Allentown.

## Designer Presents New Sitz Bath To MMC's Surgical Unit

The first of a line of newly-developed Sitz baths has been donated to the Muhlenberg Medical Center by Dale R. Seibert, administrator of engineering for Everett Associates, an Allentown architectural firm.

MMC Administrator Donald E. Porter announced that the first "Sculptura" Sitz bath ever produced has been installed in the hospital's Surgical Unit.

Porter noted that the new Sitz bath is being used for pre and post-operative surgical patients, as well as patients suf-

fering from chronic inflammatory diseases such as arthritis.

The "Sculptura" Sitz bath was developed by the Crane Co., a firm that is now completing a two-year program of redesign and development of hospital fixtures. The New York manufacturing concern presented Seibert in appreciation for his technical advice in its development.

The new Sitz bath was delivered to MMC by the Crane Co.'s Allentown distributor, Hertz Supply Co., Inc.

## MISS (Continued from page 1)

program that was terminated upon the retirement of Rev. Charles E. Fisher of Bethlehem.

MMC had depended on this former program to provide ministers for its Sunday worship services for patients. When the program ended last year, the Men of MMC assured the continuation of the weekly services by providing volunteers.

Miss Sieger indicated that all the chaplaincy needs of the hospital, including the worship services, will be handled through the current Synod service.

A native of Slatington, the new director graduated from the Lankenau School of Nursing, received her bachelor's degree from West Chester State College and earned a master's degree in social work at Temple University. Miss Sieger now resides in Allentown.

## DINNER (Continued from page 1)

Rev. Hartzell, the pastor of St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Bethlehem, was one of the early proponents of a Lutheran hospital in the Lehigh Valley. Accordingly, he was a member of the steering committee for Muhlenberg Medical Center, until leaving the Valley to accept a call in Williamsport. He returned to Bethlehem in 1969.

The well-known church leader began his ministry in 1936 in Monroe County and served for a number of years as pastor of St. Stephen's Lutheran Church in Allentown.

He was president of the Allentown Conference of the Lutheran Church in America and presently is a member of the board of trustees of Muhlenberg College.

## Youth Volunteers Ready For Service After Orientation Program

### Women Give \$5,000 Gift Shop Profits Pass \$50,000 Mark

The Women's Auxiliary of Muhlenberg Medical Center has presented a check for \$5,000 to the hospital's board of directors.

Mrs. John Snyder of Emmaus, auxiliary president, announced that the check represents the group's fourth payment on its \$100,000 pledge to MMC. These funds are being used to defray the cost of new X-ray equipment.

Mrs. John Detthof of Bethlehem, treasurer, reported that the Camille Gift Shop earned \$2,500 during the last three months of 1972. A check for that amount was given to the board, bringing the shop's all-time earnings for the hospital to \$51,550.

The Catasauqua-Nothampton-Whitehall Area presented the auxiliary with a check for \$1,800 which represented proceeds from the group's December Holly Fair.

Mrs. William MacMorris of Bethlehem, Thrift Shop chairman, turned in a check for \$1,000 from the auxiliary sponsored shop.

Mrs. Snyder announced the following schedule of patients' tray favors: Lincoln's Birthday, February 12, prepared by St. John's Lutheran Church, Nazareth; Valentine's Day, February 14, by Christ Lutheran Church, Allentown, and Washington's Birthday, February 22, by Lehighon Cub Scouts.

## RESEARCH (Continued from page 1)

the progress of all 40 patients who will report to the clinic every two weeks for examination and to replenish their supply of the drug or placebo. At the end of weeks 2, 4, 8, 12 and 16, patients will be rated with particular emphasis on tremor, rigidity, akinesia, balance, gait, facial expression, dyskinesia, somnolence, mood depression and dementia.

In addition to the physical

More than 60 area junior and senior high school students have successfully completed the Youth Volunteer Orientation Program at Muhlenberg Medical Center.

Director of Volunteers, Mrs. Mary Grace Stanton, reported that the purpose of the orientation program was to help youth volunteers understand the hospital's role in meeting community health care needs and to learn the various functions they will be performing at MMC.

Mrs. Stanton pointed out that the program included 16 hours of instruction, involving lectures, demonstrations, visual aids, several texts and on-the-job supervision.

The training classes were conducted by Mrs. Dorothy Capobianco, R.N., in-service nursing supervisor; Richard Frantz, registered physical therapist, and Mrs. Stanton, who were aided by a number of in-volunteers.

Assisting the three instructors were Nancy DeMetro, Jean Heist, Carol Hornak, Mary Lo, Michelle McGee, Mary Price, Sarajane Remaley, Ruth Shively and Cathy Zuurbier.

Mrs. Capobianco stated that the youth volunteers were taught fire regulations, the personal care of patients, hospital background and procedures, plus a wide range of nursing techniques and general services.

She pointed out that, in addition to providing the hospital with vital volunteer assistants, the youth program performs an even greater service to the entire medical field by encouraging young people to seek health and para-medical careers.

examinations, special laboratory tests will be conducted on each patient, all of whom will continue their usual dosages of L-dopa throughout the testing period.

Dr. Donio stated that the proven performance of EX-10, also known as elantrine, will result in its being made available to the nation's Parkinson's patients in the near future.



## Oxygen Topic of Talk By Dr. Galgon



John P. Galgon, M.D.

John P. Galgon, M.D., director of the Pulmonary Function Laboratory at Muhlenberg Medical Center, addressed members of the hospital's medical staff in the fourth program of the staff's 1972-73 lecture series. The program was held in the MMC Dining Room on Monday, February 19, at 9:30 p.m.

Dr. Gavin C. Barr, staff president, announced that Dr. Galgon discussed "Oxygen (That Old Drug), Its Use and Abuse."

A graduate of Moravian College, Dr. Galgon received his M.D. degree from Philadelphia's Thomas Jefferson University School of Medicine in 1960. After his internship at Allentown General Hospital, he served a residency in internal medicine at the Philadelphia Veterans Administration Hospital, where he was awarded a Pulmonary Disease Fellowship.

In addition to his directorship at MMC, Dr. Galgon serves as Chief of the Pulmonary Section at Allentown General Hospital and is currently an advisor for the Allentown Cardio-Pulmonary Rehabilitation Center.

Immediately preceding the medical staff meeting was a general surgical staff meeting, which featured a panel case presentation on "The Treatment of Solitary Thyroid Nodules."

Serving on the panel were Medical Director Dr. Ben C. Barnes, Dr. Charles A. Waltman, chairman, Department of Surgery; Dr. Joseph W. Fisher, Jr., and Dr. Donald E. Morel.

## MH/MR Base Unit Moves "Across Street"

The Lehigh County Mental Health and Mental Retardation Base Service Unit, which has been located at Muhlenberg Medical Center since its establishment in 1970, has relocated in the Campbell Building at 1458 Roselawn Avenue, just east of Schoenersville Road.

Allen D. Deibler, administrator for the county's MH/MR program, announced that the unit will maintain its close affiliation with MMC, stating that the hospital continues to oversee all administrative and fiscal matters for the 3-year old agency.

John Stoffa, director of the unit, explained that the move resulted from a critical lack of space. He said "Our caseload has expanded considerably over the past year. We now provide mental health services for nearly 400 persons, and this number is bound to grow as more and more people learn that these services are available."

Under Pennsylvania's Mental Health and Retardation Act, two base service units are being operated in Lehigh County. The one affiliated with MMC serves a substantial part of the county's northern and eastern sectors, while the remainder of the county comes under the jurisdiction of a unit located near Allentown General Hospital.

Stoffa stated that MMC's base service unit employs a multidisciplinary team of 3 part-time psychiatrists, a part-time psychologist, 3 case workers, a social worker in the units methadone maintenance program and a psychiatric nurse.

The new Roselawn Avenue quarters provide 12 offices and a large waiting room, approximately doubling the unit's former operational space. The director observed that the addi-



CONSULTATION — Elizabeth Bauder, M.D., psychiatrist, left, and Mrs. Margaret Obulaney, psychiatric nurse, consult with two patients at the Mental Health/Mental Retardation Base Unit.

tional space "has alleviated a number of functional problems previously encountered by the professional staff, in addition to making office life a lot easier for our 3-member clerical staff."

Most of the new office space is being used for individual or group counseling and therapy. According to Stoffa, MMC will continue its in-hospital clinic for the methadone program, but all drug counseling services are being carried out in the new offices.

The MH/MR unit offers assistance to mentally disabled persons on an equal opportunity basis, regardless of ability to pay.

The unit's staff can arrange hospitalization for up to 60 days for patients who require more intensive treatment. The majority, however, are treated on an outpatient basis, receiving diagnosis and treatment in the unit's mental health clinic.

Aftercare services are available for persons who require further treatment following their

release from in-patient care, while interim care is provided by the unit for mentally retarded persons awaiting placement in a State School and Hospital.

In accordance with the MH/MR act, the base service program provides a round-the-clock emergency telephone number for persons who need immediate inpatient or outpatient care.

"We also refer patients to rehabilitation and training programs at other Lehigh Valley agencies," Stoffa points out, "as well as arranging partial hospitalization for patients requiring only day, night or weekend care."

Stoffa asserted that "one of the most valuable aspects of our program is that it provides a centrally located office where any person or agency can request assistance regarding a mental disability and be assured that the information they give will be held in the strictest confidence."

Muhlenberg Medical Center  
Bethlehem, Pa. 18017

*12th Annual  
Lehigh Valley  
Summer Festival*

3 BIG DAYS

Aug. 24, 25, 26

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